Eco-art techniques



Hnutí Brontosaurus
Erasmus+

Is it a challenge to create art from garbage?

For a week we explored waste management, upcycling techniques and sustainable way of life. We found inspiration in deep ecology, city game, best art practices and metal animals Zoo *(interested? Check the web: kovozoo.cz)*.
So what came out of that? A series of eco-art workshops and the final exhibition.
In this brochure we would like to share our experience and results and offer these eco-art workshops for youth work or just for fun.

Who we are?
A group of 28 active, eco-friendly, inspired young people from Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Russia.
The training course "Eco-art" took part in Brno, Czech Republic on 1–8 July 2016 and was organized by Hnutí Brontosaurus. The project was supported by Erasmus+.

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About the Eco-art project



The **ecological** and **environmental problem**s are already undeniably shouting out on the world and the mankind sooner or later has to face their irrevocable results. There are various ways to address this issues and let more people know about the upcoming possible disasters if nothing would be changed in our everyday life as well as the global ecological policy in our countries. For our training course from the bunch of ways we have chosen **art**- as a mean to bring up the problems that our nature and for sure we as well are dealing with nowadays.

Eco-Art training course has gathered around it people from different age groups and different occupations around art and environmental problems. The backgrounds and experiences of the participants were also different and that made the work even more productive, as there was a live learning process even among the participants that gave its very positive impact on the whole process of the training. The united understanding of the seriousness of the problems that we are facing nowadays made the participants get into the topic easily and present us the situation in their countries, work in groups trying to come out with some solutions for various cases, develop working plans for their own projects in their national groups and create artworks and handmade eco-art objects as a visual result of the whole learning process

The project Eco-art was a training course for *youth workers* and *active young people* interested in promotion of sustainable environmentally friendly lifestyle and active problem solving in their local communities through the means of art. Within this training we worked on environmental issues (*waste management, sustainable design, sustainable development*) and workshops on art techniques to address these issues and give them more public awareness. We used recycling materials and upcycling techniques to make the topic of environmental protection more visible and interesting for public. During the training the participants created an art-objects and exhibit them in a public place in Brno, thus attracting attention of urban citizens to environmental issues. We would like to add to the issue of art and recycling also the international spirit and enable young people to get more informed about system and level of the environment protection and sustainable development in other countries, both in EU and outside EU.

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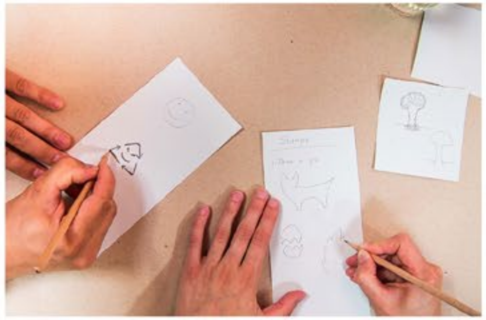
Potato stamps



Materials:
potatoes, knife, pencils,
paper, paints, brushes,
sponges, glass of water

The aim: To use natural material for artwork instead of artificial one

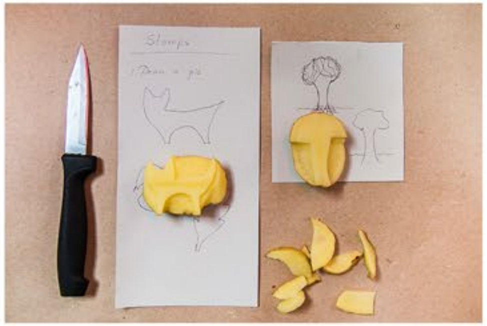
This example shows that you don't need lot of special instruments to make art. Just use your imagination and you will find materials everywhere.



1. Make a sketch of the stamp on the paper



2. Split potatoe with a knife



3. Carve a stamp



4. Put a paint on it with brush and sponge



5. Make prints on paper

Potato stamps







Leader: Ekaterina Semenikhina
Team: Hedvica, Pavel, Petra, Martina, Georgios-Michalis, Fani

Flowers from plastic bottles



Materials:
plastic bottles of various colours, scissors, tongs, candle

The aim: To make a decoration from useless bottles



1. Cut a cane from a green bottle and several leaves



2. Scorch the edges of leaves and the long edge of the cane



3. Melt the end of one leaf and the end of the cane and push it together.

Do the same with the other leaves.



You can put also a green leaf in the middle of the cane

Flowers from plastic bottles



Leader: Martina Pavelková
Team: Aga, Petra, Helena

Flowers from paper rolls

Materials:
paper roll, role, paint, scissors



The aim: A big number of used paper is thrown away. I decided to show how we can make the flowers with (already) recycled paper rolls

Flowers from paper rolls







1. Paint paper rolls
2. Cut them
3. Use the rope for making flowers





Leader: Lana Lazaric
Team: Maja, Ana and Kacper

Posters



Materials:
paper (from magazines, brochures…),
scissors, thread, glue, puncher, pencil

The aim: Events need proper posters, capable of drawing attention, providing information and convincing people to attend it. That is why we held a poster workshop, so that we can successfully address these issues and create some solid results.







1) Draw a draft

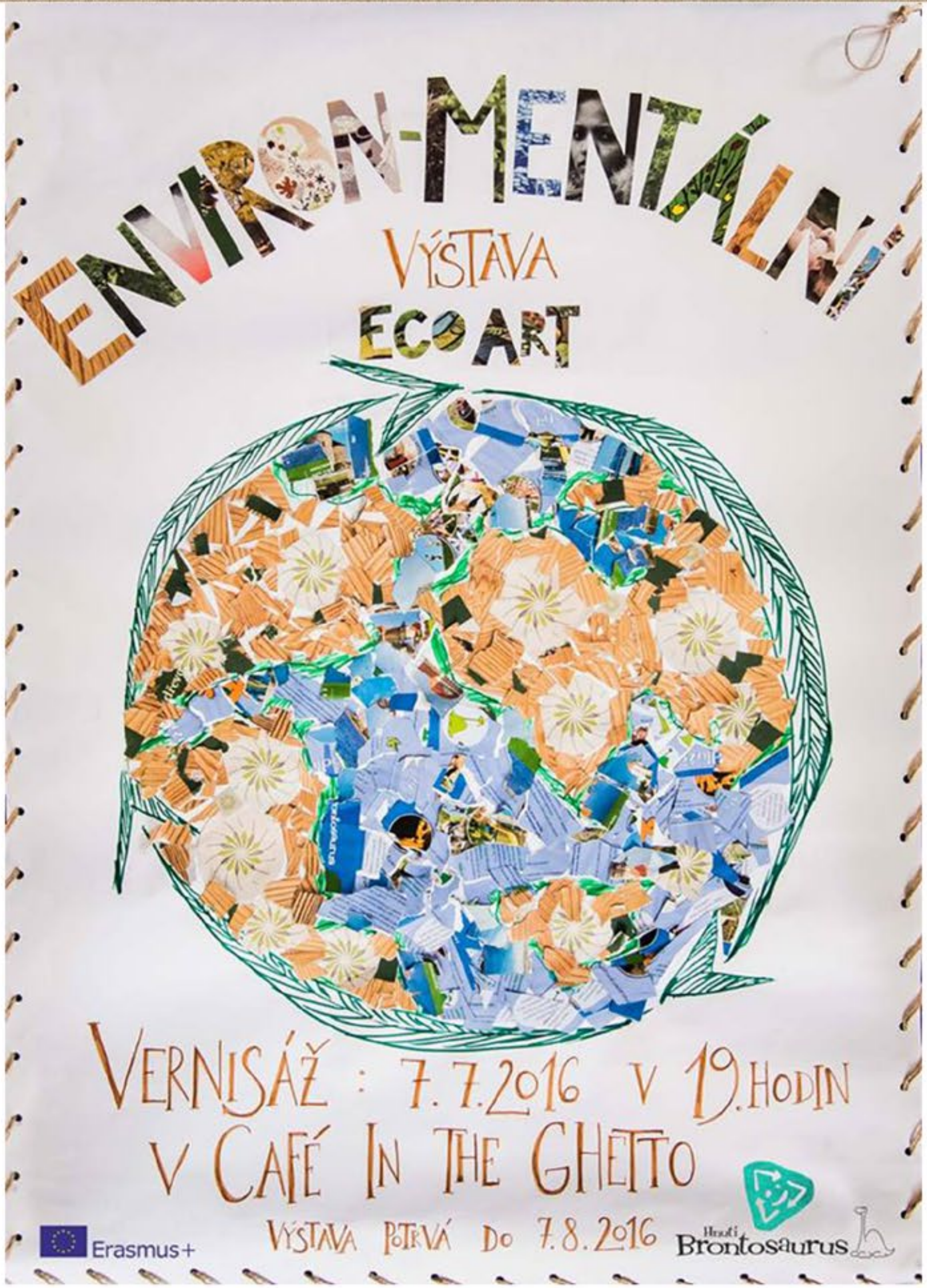
2) Cut papers from magazines, brochures

3) Glue them on the right places

4) Make holes for the decorative threads

5) Be creative

Posters





Leader: Irina Zakharova
Team: Cristina, Dimitris, Georgios-Michalis, Masha, Kornelia, Andreea, Maria

Decorative thread balls





Materials:
baloons, threads,
PVA glue, brushes

The aim: To make decoration for lamps from available materials

1. Inflate a baloon
2. Wind the thread around the baloon
3. Spread the glue on the surface
4. Let it get dry for at least 24 hours
5. Blow the baloon out and take the remaining pieces out of it

Decorative thread balls



Leader: Irina Zakharova
Team: Hedvika, Martina, Georgios-Michalis, Dimitris, Valeria, Fani

Brontosaurus made of papier mache







Materials:
old used newspapers, magazines, posters, leaflets, roles from a toilet papier, a papier tape or an old string, wire (occasionaly), glue or a starch, 2 white covers of PET bottles

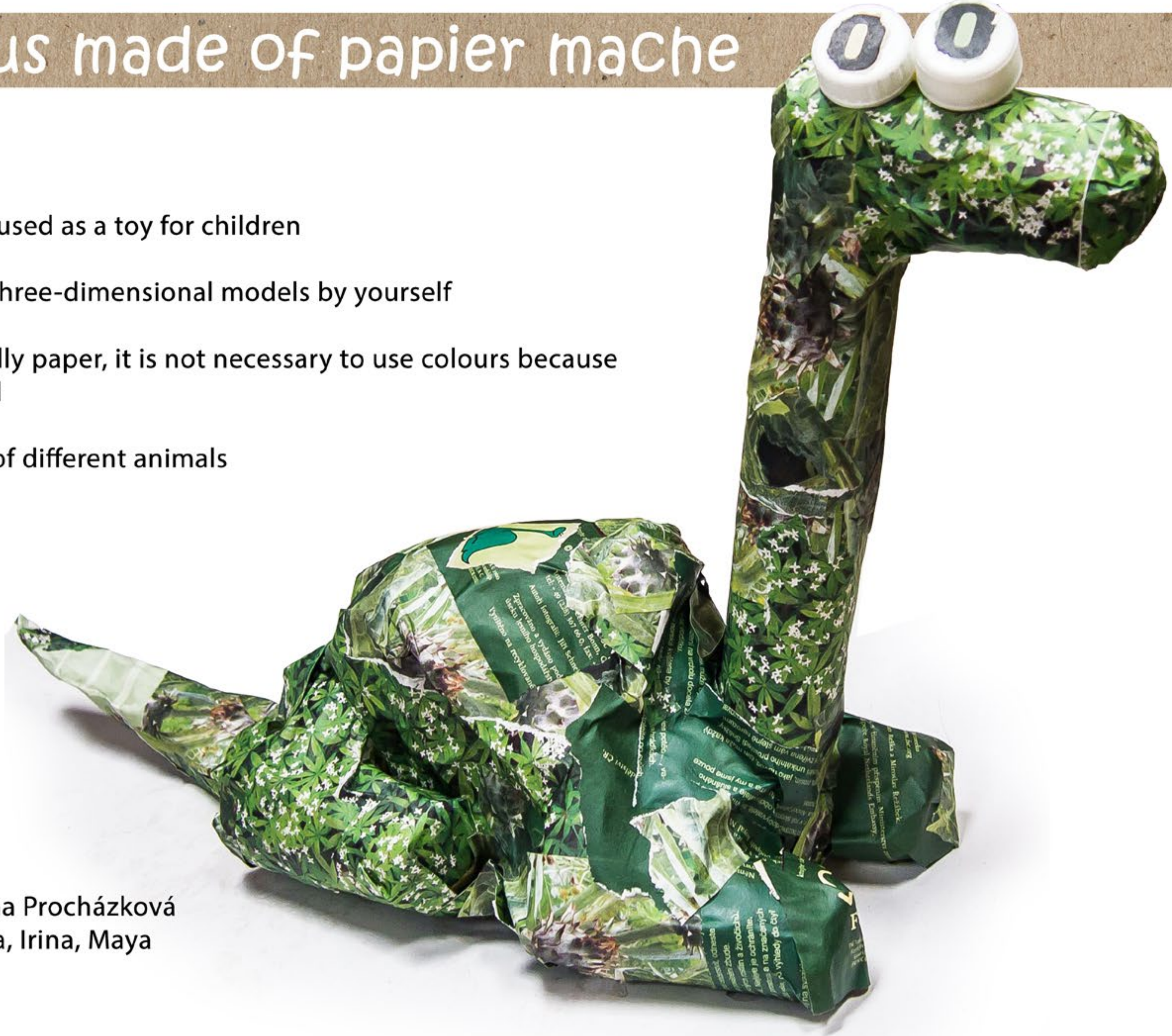
1. Create a skeleton of the figure using roles or scrunched up paper
(the skeleton can be made aslo of wire)
2. Tie the skeleton up together with the string or with the tape

3. Tire pieces of paper (you can choose the colour, for the brontosaurus the green one is suitable)



4. Stick the pieces of paper to the skeleton with the glue. It is reccomended to use less glue to each piece for better drying. All the skeleton should be covered. Use at least two layers of paper.
5. After the figure is dry, stick the eyes made of PET bottle lids

Brontosaurus made of papier mache



Aims:

This 3D plastic figure can be used as a toy for children

A simple way how to create three-dimensional models by yourself

Using trash material, especially paper, it is not necessary to use colours because the paper is already coloured

Getting to know the shapes of different animals

Leader: Zuzana Procházková
Team: Hedvika, Irina, Maya

Postcards



Materials: scissors, old posters, brouchures, glue and imagination

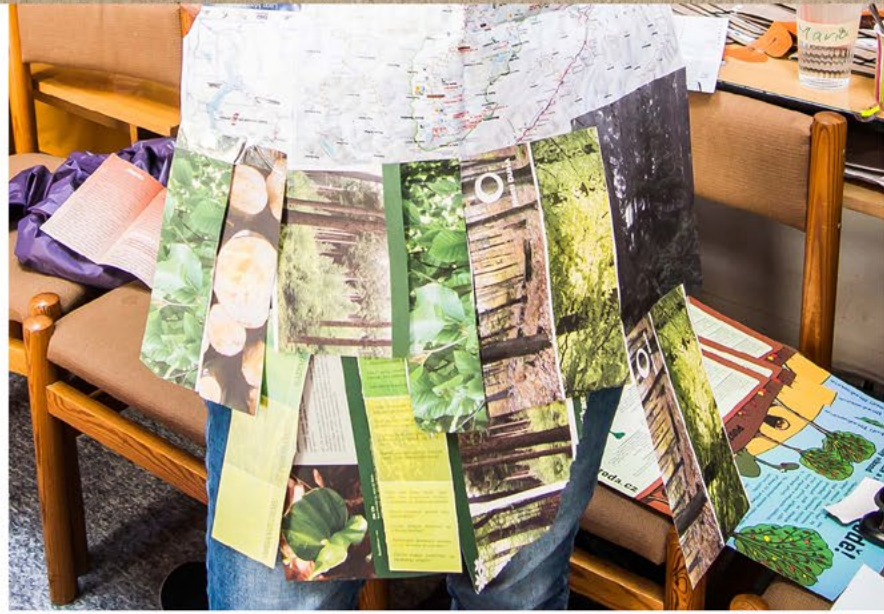
The aim: To create something beautiful and original from trash

Steps: crop anything, add glue and put them on the paper, however you like

Team: Irina, Cristina, Dimitris, Andreea, Maria, Hedvika, Masha

Paper dress





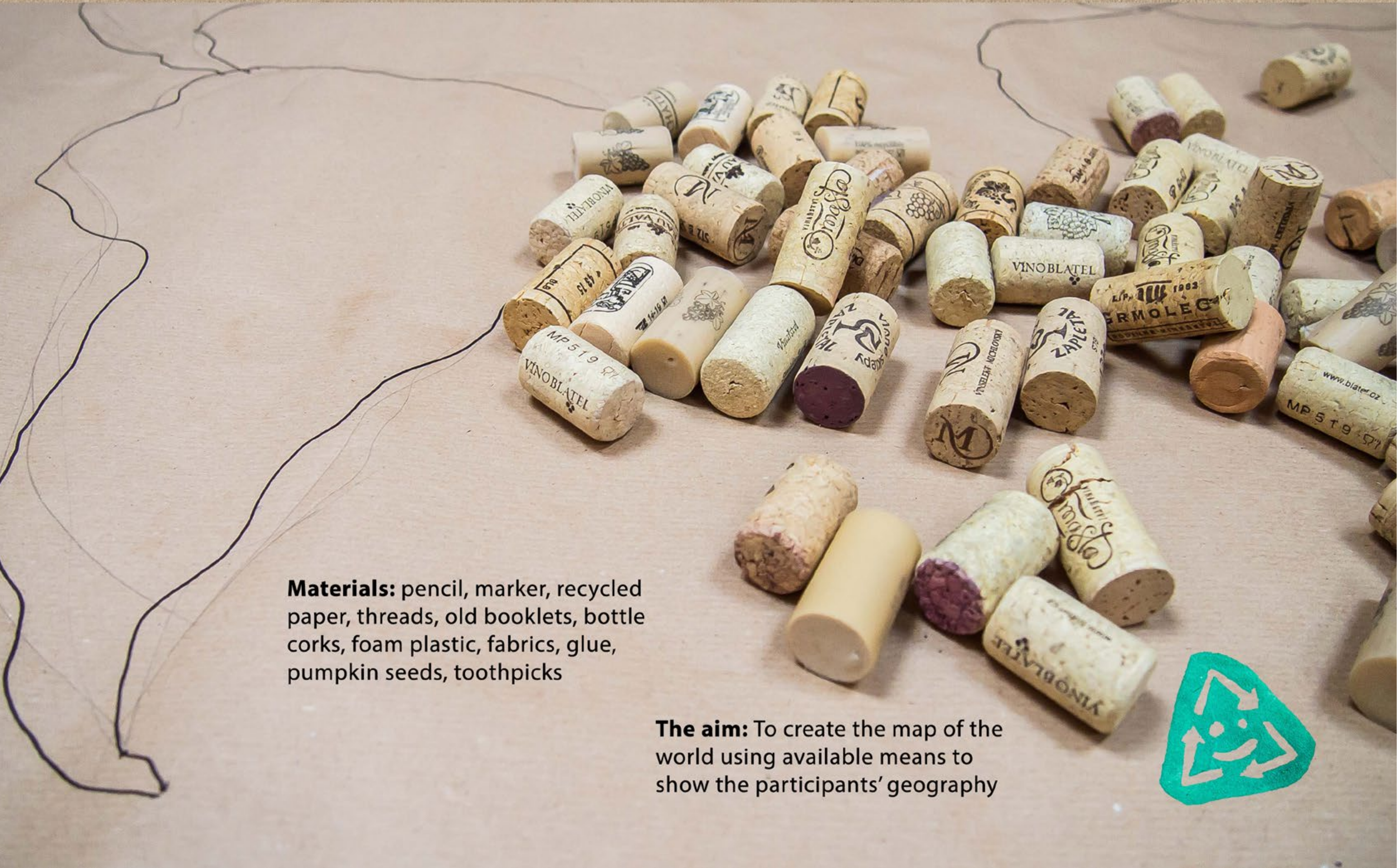
Materials: paper trash (newspapers, magazines, brochures etc.), glue, tape, stapler, scissors, curly scissors

The aim: To create something nice from useless paper

1. Make a sketch
2. Collect nice pieces of paper
3. Cut pieces of dress
4. Connect pieces with glue, tape or stapler

Leader: Ekaterina Semenikhina
Team: Maria, Masha

Eco-map of the world



Materials: pencil, marker, recycled paper, threads, old booklets, bottle corks, foam plastic, fabrics, glue, pumpkin seeds, toothpicks

The aim: To create the map of the world using available means to show the participants' geography

Eco-map of the world



1. Draw the map of the world
2. Cut the bottle corks into 4 parts
3. Tear the booklets and the fabrics
4. Fracture the foam plastic
5. Stick all the prepared materials onto the map (use different stuff for different continents)
6. Make flags of the countries (participants of the training) using toothpicks and small sheets of paper
7. Affix the flags to the map





Leader: Valeria Volkogonova
Team: Irina, Kornelia, Maja, Fani

Drums



The aim: To create an instrument from some trash we found and make it have a satisfying sound

1) Cut the metallic box into small lines
2) Put it inside of the wooden box in the upside corner. This was made for the snare sound.
3) Make some small gaps in the wooden box and we put the wire from inside in a triangle shape so it can make some additional sound
4) Make a backside hole in the box, the sound has a better output
5) Put some nails, so whole drum can be more secure



Materials: wooden box, wire, metallic box, nails, hammer

Leader: Kornél Herpai
Team: Pavel, Dimitris

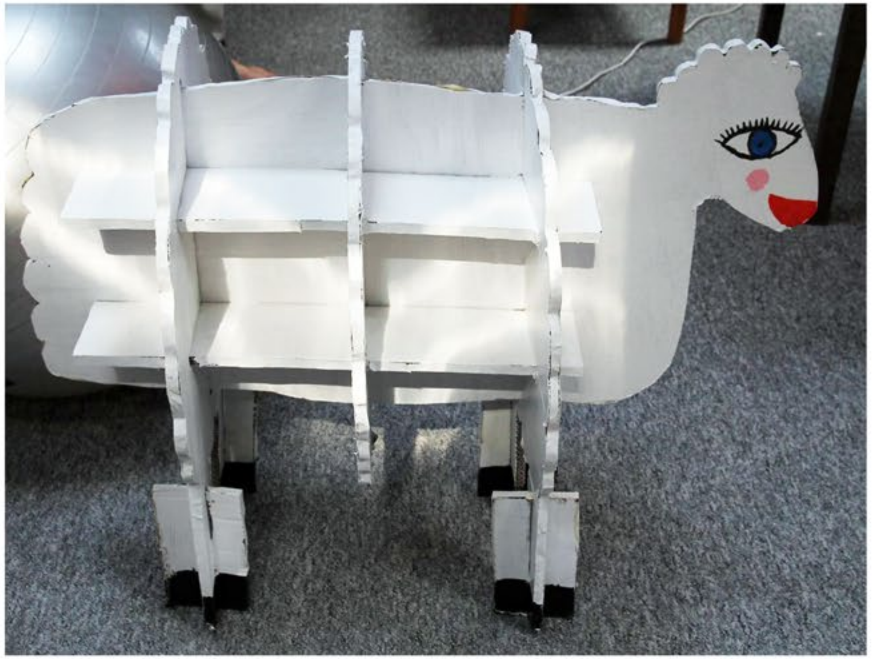
Young lady (Sheep) - furniture from cardboard

Materials: cutter (knife), cardboard, paint, meter, pen, glue, paper

The aim: To show people new view on the cardboard

I was inspired by this works: smartdecofurniture.com And I was looking for a way to bring this idea into reality. Now I'm really glad that the 'Ecoart' training gave me the possibility to do it and find people inspired by this work too.

Elena Evseeva







1) draw the body parts of some animal
2) cut them
3) connect the details into one big construction
4) paint your animal
5) cover the edges of the details by paper and glue to make them look better

Leader: Elena Evseeva
Team: Pavel, Masha, Martina, George, Petra

Bottles with thread - Winter bottles







Materials:
bottles, glue, chunky threads, scissors

The aim: To create beautiful vases from old bottles and thread left-overs

Leader: Maja Matković
Team: Dimitris, Petra, Masha, Cristina, Andreea, Hedvika

Bottles with thread - Winter bottles

1. Soak the bottles to remove the labels and remaining ingredients then dry thoroughly.

2. Apply a line of glue at the top of one bottle (do a line at a time as the process is slow and the glue will dry and you will have to keep reapplying) and start threading the bottle. (I had problems starting from the bottom)

3. Keep applying the glue and threading until you get to the bottom. (You can use one color or mix them up)

4. Tie a different color of thread on it to beautify or stick buttons on it.





Ashtrays



Materials:
beer cans, scissors

1. get some un-crushed beer cans
2. wash the cans and dry them
3. cut off the top part of the cans and smoothen the edge. [*picture 1*]
4. cut the cans side into equally wide vertical slices, and bend them outwards. [*picture 2*]
5. start to make the flower-like pattern by bending every slice between its 2nd and 3rd neighbour in a chosen direction. (CW or CCW) [*pictures 3,4*]



6. bend the last 2 free slices under the already bent slices, still following the pattern.
7. turn the white thing upside down, apply pressure on the edges in order to straighten the whole structure.

Ta-da, we have a fully functioning fancy ashtray!

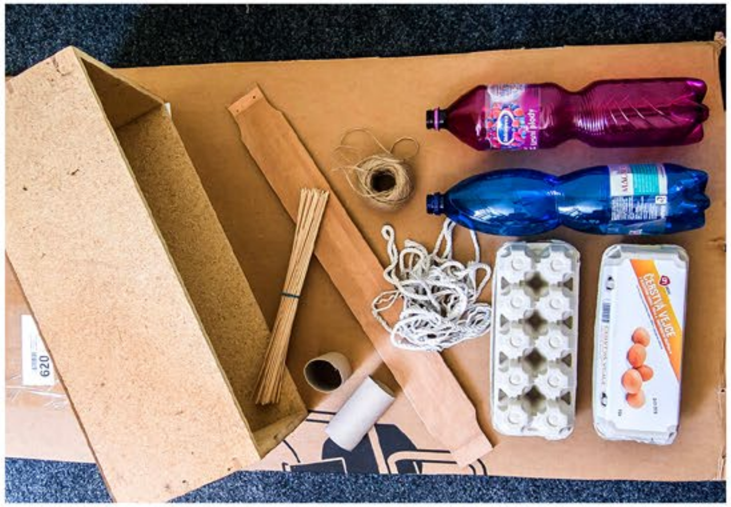
Ashtrays



The aim: To find a use for the otherwise thrown out beercans and at once solve the problem of the cigarette butts thrown on the ground

Leader: Kornél Herpai
Team: Maja, Christina, Lana, Hedvika, Maria, Andreea

Tree of the Future





Materials:
basis of an old bed, wooden boxes, tetrapacks, old papers, strips of wood, screws, ceramic tile



1. Fix the cardboard on the basis of the old bed
2. Fix the boxes with screws on the basis
3. Fix the branches on the boxes
4. Paint the base
5. Put papier mache on the stem (made by the boxes)
6. Decorate the tree.



Tree of the Future



The aim: To make from useless things a new piece of art and to show the future species of trees that will appear instead of the real ones if we won't change our attitude towards the nature.

We used the old stuff and the rubbish and we tried to show people that rubbish can be used and for it we can make a new beautiful thing.

Leader: Alin Cirstian
Team: Maria, Cristina, Andreea, Kasper, Lana, Ana, Maya, Aga



The brochure is made and designed by Valeria Volkogonova.

Photos: Valeria Volkogonova, Maria Gulina, Pavlína Martinů.

Participants:
Georgios-Michalis Papadopoulos, Fani Kragiopoulou, Dimitris Kogios (Greece); Valeria Volkogonova, Irina Zakharova, Pavel Kovshel, Maria Gulina (Belarus); Alin Cirstian, Maria Vladucu, Andreea Cirstian, Cristina Mirsanu (Romania); Agnieszka Siegieda, Joanna Szwabowska, Kacper Giezek (Poland); Maja Matkovic, Lana Lazaric (Croatia); Elena Evseeva, Ekaterina Semenikhina, Maria Pastushik (Russia); Petra Kozalek, Kornél Herpai, Kornélia Merczel (Hungary); Martina Pavelková, Hedvika Bartošková, Zuzana Procházková, Eva Pavlíková, Shushan Harutyunyan, Pavlína Martinů (Czech Republic).

Partner organisations:
Hnutí Brontosaurus (Czech Republic), Ecodom (Belarus), Green Evolution (Romania), InterAction club (Russia), HELLAS FOR US (Greece), Profilantrop (Hungary), Youth of Europe (Poland), O.A.Z.A. (Croatia).

Project partners:
eFi hotel Brno and Café in the Ghetto.

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